

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 898

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the pastors and members of Faith Promise Church on the occasion of the church's fifteenth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of Tennessee are crucial elements contributing to the social and spiritual health of our State, and the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize significant milestones in the lives of those communities of faith; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should recognize those venerable religious congregations that, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the good people of Faith Promise Church comprise one such congregation, and this year they are celebrating the church's fifteen years of service to the Lord and their community; and

WHEREAS, the history of Faith Promise Church begins in February of 1995, when three hundred believers, equipped with only a vision to impact the world for Christ and a deep and abiding faith, rented a modest space at a hotel in Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Faith Promise Church found spiritual leadership in the form of Senior Pastor Dr. Chris Stephens, who, with his vast experience and extensive knowledge, has continuously expanded the church's outreach; and

WHEREAS, in order to advance the church's work and enhance its community involvement, Faith Promise Church secured thirty-three acres in 1998, upon which they erected their new place of worship in 2000; and

WHEREAS, due to Faith Promise Church's tremendous growth, including the invaluable addition of Executive Pastor Dr. Josh Whitehead, and its widespread involvement throughout

Knoxville, the church was named the ninety-third fastest growing church in America in 2005;
and

WHEREAS, a pioneering community of faith, Faith Promise Church constantly innovates and incorporates new methods and technologies into its ministries, including developing a groundbreaking internet campus to extend its outreach to the world; and

WHEREAS, sacrificing their time and resources to spread the Word, the members of Faith Promise Church have touched thousands of lives and impacted the world through mission trips in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Jamaica, Thailand, Africa, South Africa, and England; and

WHEREAS, Faith Promise Church has stood on the rock-solid foundation of Christian belief, service, and love for fifteen years, serving as a bastion of faith and outreach to the people of Knoxville, the surrounding area, and the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join in celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of the Faith Promise Church, thank the good people of this remarkable congregation and their ministers for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.